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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Note verbale dated 3 November 1995 from the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit with this note information from the Government of Ukraine on the launching of the first Ukrainian spacecraft, which took place on 31 August 1995.

We should be grateful if you would have this information circulated as an official document of the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, under agenda item 83.

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ANNEX

Information from the Government of Ukraine concerning the launching of the first Ukrainian spacecraft, which took place on 31 August 1995

The launching of the first Ukrainian space craft, Sich-1, by a Tsiklon carrier rocket took place from the Russian Plesetsk launch site at 0949:59 hours Kiev time on 31 August 1995.

The placing of the Sich-1 satellite in orbit testifies to Ukraine's de facto confirmation as a space power and to the completion of the establishment of a national self-contained ground infrastructure, based on the available individual space complex elements, that will permit the independent operation of spacecraft.

The satellite is intended to solve problems of environmental monitoring and rational natural resource utilization.

The launch of the spacecraft was conducted as part of Ukraine's State Space Programme. Thus Ukraine has completed the first phase of the establishment of a State natural resource utilization and environmental monitoring system using remote-sensing data.

Since 5 September the on-board special-purpose data package, including a side-looking radar, a radiometer and multi-channel scanners in the visible frequency range, has been in constant operation and is regularly transmitting data to ground receiver stations.

The spacecraft's on board systems are working normally.

The implementation by Ukraine of a national space programme opens up new possibilities for an expansion of cooperation between Ukraine and other members of the international community, especially developing countries, in the development of outer space for peaceful purposes, for the benefit of mankind as a whole.